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**Subject:** Hurricanes Irma and Maria Management Report October 10  
**Attachments:** Irma Management Report\_10-10 Final.pdf; FEMA SLB Maria Irma and Harvey 0500 ET 28 Oct 17.pdf

Attached and copied below, please find the HQ EOC Management Report for EPA's Response to Hurricanes Irma and Maria. The HQ EOC has been issuing this report daily. As response efforts wind down the issuance frequency will be amended as appropriate.

If you have any questions, please contact the EOC manager at 202-250-8903 or the Deputy EOC Manager 202-250-8904.

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### **HURRICANES IRMA AND MARIA MANAGEMENT REPORT**

*Information contained in this report reflects HQ and regional reporting from the most recently completed operational period as well as other reports provided by HQ, regional and interagency sources.*

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#### **National Incident Management Objectives**

Objective 1: Ensure that health and safety of the EPA responders is considered at all times.

Objective 2: Establish an incident management structure and processes employing the Incident Command System to enable effective overall management of the event with deployment of resources (staff and equipment) in a rapid, aggressive and well-coordinated manner.

Objective 3: Ensure prompt Review and Processing of Fuel Waiver requests.

Objective 4: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment of Industrial facilities as requested by the State or under EPA's statutory program responsibilities for CERCLA Superfund, RMP and FRP facilities. Working with our state partners, contact industrial sources within the impacted area to determine their operational status and determine what support can be provided with the monitoring of the start-up of industrial sources.

Objective 5: Prepare for and provide Rapid Assessment & Technical Assistance Drinking Water & Wastewater facilities as requested by the State or local government. EPA will support our state partners in contacting drinking water and wastewater systems.

Objective 6: Prepare a Sustained Response Plan that outlines the resource and equipment needs for a long duration response.

Objective 7: Activate the Agency's Crisis Communication Plan to ensure effective and efficient coordination of all incident communications.

Objective 8: Encourage a collaborative federalism approach, where national, state and local governments interact cooperatively and collectively to solve common problems.

Objective 9: Begin Agency internal and external coordination under the National Disaster Recovery Framework regarding Recovery Support Functions in which EPA is likely to be involved.

## **Executive Summary**

### **Region 2**

- Deep tropical moisture will continue to overspread Puerto Rico (PR) and the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) through October 11<sup>th</sup>. Numerous showers and thunderstorms (especially in the afternoon hours) capable of heavy rainfall, cloud to ground lightning, and flash flooding can be expected which may impact response and recovery operations. Those part of recovery operations should monitor the thunderstorm activity near and around them today as flash flooding and mudslides will be a significant concern. A Flash Flood Watch has been issued for portions of PR and the USVI through Wednesday. Rainfall amounts of 2 to 4 inches with locally higher amounts will be possible. Soils are already saturated and loose, and many rivers and small streams are running at above normal levels. Therefore, there is a high risk of river and small stream flooding, mudslides, and rock fall.
- Immediate risk reduction measures are ongoing to stabilize the Guajataca dam spillway and clear outlet blockage. As of October 10<sup>th</sup>, all concrete barriers have been placed and sand bags are being placed.
- Power remains out for close to 90% of the residents of PR and USVI.
- In PR, according to Puerto Rico Aqueducts Sewer Authority (PRASA), 36% of the PRASA-served population are without access to drinking water (DW) service. PR and USVI have island-wide boil-water orders.
- Disease outbreaks have been reported in numerous municipalities in PR. On October 9<sup>th</sup>, the Mayor of Canóvanas Lorna Soto reported a potential death and others affected due to leptospirosis coming from a spring in the Cubuy area. EPA also received from HHS an unconfirmed report indicating potential malaria and conjunctivitis cases in Villalba, Juana Diaz, and vicinity.
- EPA will assist the USCG in recovery efforts of sunken vessels in USVI by providing data collection and management support, in addition to assistance with oil disposal and hazardous material recovery. A public service announcement should be issued this week to advise owners of sunken or grounded boats to remove them by the November 10<sup>th</sup> deadline.

### **Region 4**

***The current schedule for management reports from R4 is Tuesday and Friday. The next update will be Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.***

- In anticipation of Tropical Storm Nate, the Mississippi State Emergency Operation Center activated to Level 3 (partial activation). The FEMA Regional Response Coordination Center in Chamblee has activated to Level 2 (partial activation). FEMA stood down RRCC operations at 19:00 hrs on October 8<sup>th</sup>. ESF-10 was released from duty.
- Two new Mission Assignments began on October 4<sup>th</sup> to support oil and hazmat response as well as landfill technical support activities.
- Three Landfill Technical Specialists are deployed to the Keys. As of October 9<sup>th</sup>, the Landfill Specialty Team (LST)

has assessed 44 Disaster Debris Management Sites (DDMSs) in the Keys.

**Regional Mission Assignments and Funding**

<b>EPA Region</b>	<b>Mission Assignment Number</b>	<b>Funding Amount</b>	<b>Description of Assignment</b>
Region 2	4339DR-PR-EPA-04	\$6,000,000	To deploy personnel to coordinate and execute all necessary assessments, evaluations, sampling and analysis services/support and other necessary actions associated with ensuring the safety and quality of DW and WW systems, in support of PRASA, Puerto Rico Department of Health (PRDH).
	4339DR-PR-EPA-03*	\$10,000,000	Removal, cleanup and disposal of oil & hazmat; collect and dispose of HHW; monitor immediate threats to public H&S and the environment in PR.
	VI-17090102-EPA-01	(\$10,000)	Expired
	4335DR-VI-EPA-01	(\$100,000)	Expired
	4335DR-VI-EPA-02	\$1,008,000	To perform assessment of oil and hazardous materials releases, contaminated debris and other environmental events in USVI.
	4335DR-VI-EPA-04	\$10,000,000	Conduct oil and hazardous materials field operations, including cleanup and disposal of hazardous materials and oil, and response to orphaned containers in order to mitigate actual and potential threats to public health and safety.
	4335DR-VI-EPA-06	\$2,000,000	EPA provides support preparing for site-specific platforms for situational awareness; environmental data management; operational deployment plans; documentation of assessment activities and results; resource and financial tracking, accountability and cost documentation.
	PR-17090102-EPA-01	(\$20,000)	Expired
	3384EM-PR-EPA-01	(\$75,000)	Expired
	4336DR-PR-EPA-01	(\$125,000)	Expired
	4336DR-PR-EPA-02	\$1,008,000	To perform assessment and reconnaissance of oil and hazardous materials release, contaminated debris and storm impacted infrastructure which may pose a threat to federal responders as well as environmental harm in PR.

EPA Region	Mission Assignment Number	Funding Amount	Description of Assignment
	4339DR-PR-EPA-01	\$303,000	EPA to FEMA NRCC or PR JFO/EOC
	4340DR-VI-EPA-01	\$130,000	EPA to FEMA NRCC or USVI JFO/EOC
Region 4	4337DR-FL-EPA-05	\$90,000	Activation for appropriate EPA personnel to perform the functions of ESF-10 w/ RRCC, IOF, JFO, FEMA's Incident Management Assistance Team (IMAT), Preliminary Damage Assessment (PDA) Team, or other teams and locations, at the direction and coordination of FEMA.
	4337DR-FL-EPA-03	(\$525,000)	Expired
	4337DR-FL-EPA-04	(\$9,000,000)	Expired
	4337DR-FL-EPA-07	(\$675,000)	Expired
	4337DR-FL-EPA-08	\$10,000,000	Provide oil and hazardous material field response in support of FEMA response operations providing specialized expertise, conducting damage assessment of oil/hazmat waste impact evaluating hazards; and/or response, removal, or disposal of: actual and potential oil discharges, and releases of hazardous substances, pollutants and contaminants and remove pollutants from vessels in or upon navigable waters and adjoining shorelines through November 30 <sup>th</sup> with a state cost share of 10%.
	4337DR-FL-EPA-09	\$675,000	Provide funding for EPA Landfill Specialty Teams through November 30 <sup>th</sup> with a state cost share of 10%.
	4337DR-FL-USGC-05	\$10,000,000	EPA will provide oil, hazardous substances, pollutants, and contaminants field response and recovery actions in support of FEMA response and recovery operations.
<b>Total Active MA</b>	\$51,214,000		

*\*A signed mission assignment task order documenting the additional taskings requested by the PR Solid Waste Authority was received.*

#### **Number of Regional Personnel Involved in Response**

Type	R2 Personnel	R4 Personnel	Total Regional Personnel
<b>EPA</b>	151	29	180
<b>Contractors</b>	66	14	80

<b>Totals</b>	218*	43	261*
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*\*Includes one Coast Guard employee stationed in Edison, NJ*

#### **Force Laydown for USVI\* and PR (as reported by Region 2 on October 9<sup>th</sup>)**

- R2 intends to enter resource orders into the WebEOC Personnel Resource Log for an additional 110 personnel on or about October 16<sup>th</sup> for PR.

Type	Personnel USVI	Personnel PR	Total Deployment
<b>EPA</b>	21	57	78
<b>Contractors</b>	18	24	42
<b>Totals</b>	39	81	120

*\*St. John is currently not accessible to EPA responders.*

#### **Region 2 Significant Activities**

##### **Superfund and Oil Sites**

- R2 estimates that there are 1,700 active and temporarily closed underground storage tank (USTs) facilities in PR.
- There are 34 Superfund and oil sites (30 in PR and 4 in USVI). The Regional Emergency Operations Center (REOC) is contacting the Remedial Project Managers (RPMs) for each site and working with R2's Emergency and Remedial Response Division to provide updates.

SUPERFUND SITES (NPL, Removal and Oil)						
Site	Type	Phase 1:	Phase 2		Phase 3	All Phases Completed
		Post-Storm Assessment	Site Inspection Needed	Inspected	Additional Response Action	
PUERTO RICO						
Arecibo Battery Recycling Co.	Removal & NPL*	09/22	No	-	No	09/22
Corozal Battery	Removal & NPL*	09/24	No	-	No	09/24
Puma Caribe (CAPECO)	Oil Response	09/21	No	-	No	09/25
Papelera Puertorriquena, Inc.	NPL	09/29	No	-	No	09/29
Naval Security Group Activity	Other	10/06	No	-	No	10/06
U.S. Naval Station	Other	10/06	No	-	No	10/06
Juncos Landfill	NPL	09/30	Under review			
Upjohn Facility	NPL	09/30	Under review			
Scorpio Recycling Inc	NPL	10/05	Under review			

SUPERFUND SITES (NPL, Removal and Oil)						
Vega Alta Public Supply Wells	NPL	09/30	Under review			
GE Wiring Devices	NPL	10/06	Under review			
Guaynilla Bay Oil Spill	Oil	10/06	Under review			
Hormigas Groundwater Plume	NPL	10/06	Under review			
USVI						
Krum Bay Oil Spill at WAPA Facility	Oil	10/01	No	-	No	10/01
Island Chemical Corp/Virgin Islands Chemical Corp	NPL	10/05	No	-	No	10/05
Tutu Wellfield	NPL	10/03	No	-	No	10/03

*\* These are Sites that have both a Removal and Remedial program action. Only one assessment will be conducted per Site.*

### Regulated Facilities in PR

- As reported on October 9<sup>th</sup>, the Regulated Facility Team (RFT) continues to provide effective compliance assistance to Risk Management Plan (RMP), Facility Response Plans (FRP), and Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) regulated facilities. Several significant RMP, FRP, and SPCC companies in PR and the USVI, such as Puma, PRASA, Total, and Water and Power Authority (WAPA) have reported no damage to oil, chemical, or flammable operations.

Facility Type	Field Assessments Completed On October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Field Assessments On October 8 <sup>th</sup> Requiring Follow-up Action	Total Field Assessments Completed to date
RMP	6	0	38
FRP	4	1	24
SPCC (non-FRP)	10	3	33
Total	20	4	95

### Regulated Facilities in USVI

- The Virgin Island Asphalt Products facility was found to have sustained significant damage. Damage to some oil tanks was observed with discharges of product to secondary containment. The facility owner is addressing the issues with EPA oversight.
- An EPA meeting with the Roy Lester Schneider Hospital representative handling medical waste was reported on October 5<sup>th</sup>. Any request for EPA assistance with the handling and disposal of medical waste on St. Thomas will be coordinated through the EOC on St. Croix.

Facility Type	Field Assessments Completed On October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Field Assessments On October 8 <sup>th</sup> Requiring Follow-up Action	Total Field Assessments Completed to date
RMP	0	0	1
FRP	0	0	3
SPCC (non-FRP)	0	0	18

Facility Type	Field Assessments Completed On October 8 <sup>th</sup>	Field Assessments On October 8 <sup>th</sup> Requiring Follow-up Action	Total Field Assessments Completed to date
Total	0	0	22

### Drinking Water / Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments in PR

- As of October 10<sup>th</sup>, there are four commercial laboratories and one PRASA laboratory on the island capable of performing microbiology analysis. If contracts can be established with these commercial labs, this will enable samples to be analyzed.
- PR Department of Health (DOH) and PR Environmental Quality Board (EQB) laboratories *may* be utilized to establish microbiology and chemistry analysis near San Juan. The R2 DESA Laboratory provided two analysts for deployment on October 9<sup>th</sup>, to assess these laboratory spaces. The laboratories will be assessed to determine what would be needed to establish full functionality.
- PRASA facility assessments are ongoing with EPA staff participating in PRASA facility assessments.
- Out of PRASA's 51 facilities, 20 wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) are non-operational, 13 of which are upstream of a drinking water intake. These facilities represent a high priority for assessment and repair. Most of the out-of-service WWTPs are not receiving any sewage due to collapsed trunk sewers or main pump stations with operational problems.
- Assessments are complete at around 80% of PRASA's 800 pump stations. As of October 10<sup>th</sup>, at least 387 sanitary pump stations are overflowing sewage due to lack of power, malfunctioning power generator or pumping problems. Of these 387 pump stations, 179 are located upstream of a water supply intake. PR's largest pump station, Torrecillas Pump Station, suffered major damages due to flooding.
- 31 WWTPs are working on alternate power.
- EPA and the EQB plan to have physically assessed all of the island's WWTPs and pumping stations by October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessments on PR (as of October 8 <sup>th</sup> )		
Assessment Types	Daily	Total
On-Site DW Assessments	0	24
On-Site WW Assessments	11	42

- PRASA reported to CEPD that all hospitals are either connected to active DW service or are receiving water from water tanker trucks.
- There are 297 non-PRASA drinking water facilities that serve approximately 4% of the PR populations (PRASA systems service the other 96%).
  - EPA is working with PRDOH, DOD, HHS and FEMA, in assessing more than 260 non-PRASA drinking water systems throughout PR. Such systems provide drinking water from wells and surface water to isolated communities located in rural areas in PR.
- One assessment team conducted an assessment of the EQB laboratory to determine support actions and work required to bring it into service. In a meeting with the Secretary of DNER/President of EQB Tania Vazquez, information on potential EPA support for EQB Laboratory was requested. Laboratory needs include equipment and quality assurance systems. The EQB laboratory can provide support to PRASA and PRDOH laboratories that were destroyed by Hurricane Maria.
- On October 6<sup>th</sup>, EPA had a meeting with FEMA, USACE, and PRASA to discuss PRASA infrastructure emergency improvement needs. PRASA reported that with a 20% assessment of its infrastructure, it has documented \$91.3 million in repair needs for its water infrastructure damages.
- EPA OCSPP concurred on the request for use of the NaDCC tablets to purify water in PR under the 'crisis' provisions of FIFRA Section 18. PR Secretary of Health declared under Section 18 of FIFRA and 40 CFR Part 166.40, the Puerto Rico Department of Agriculture (PRDA) a crisis for the use of sodium dichloroisocyanurate (NaDCC) tablets for water purification in PR and tablet distribution is being done by FEMA.
- The Government of the Dominican Republic donated potable water to PR via water trucks. The Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO) is trying to determine the scope of federal oversight for water trucks.

## Drinking Water / Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments in USVI

- The wastewater (WW) treatment plants on all three USVI islands are operational but have limited pumping capacity due to lack of commercial power. No further action has been requested of EPA at this time.
- DPNR plans to initiate a 3-month alternative drinking water monitoring procedure, and will re-evaluate the need to continue at the end of the 3-month period. The monitoring procedure will shift from compliance monitoring to surveillance monitoring, with focus on bacteria and chlorine. A boil water advisory remains in place across the USVI.
- USVI is building additional water storage and working on restoring DW service.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Assessments on USVI* (as of October 8 <sup>th</sup> )		
Assessment Types	Daily	Total
On-Site DW Assessments	27	276
On-Site WW Assessments	0	0

*\*On-site assessment of drinking water or wastewater facilities is a site visit to a facility to determine operating status and overall needs (i.e.; power, treatment chemicals, fuel for generators).*

### St. Croix

- 177 public water systems have been tested with 47 positive tests for *E. coli*. 32 systems are in the process of remediation. 181 systems are to be tested and 68 systems are offline. EPA continues to coordinate with DPNR on resampling facilities where *E. coli* had been found.
- EPA continues to coordinate drinking water sampling with DPNR. DPNR continues to notify the proprietors of the affected systems to ensure proper disinfection measures are taken.

### St. Thomas and St. John

- EPA continues to coordinate drinking water sampling with DPNR.
- Water crews on St. Thomas made additional repairs to a 24-inch water main along the waterfront bulkhead; on October 6<sup>th</sup>, crews began recharging the line in order to restore potable water service to the downtown area. Water service to the east end communities has been restored.

## PR Air Monitoring Activities

- The EQB plans to conduct an assessment on the conditions of the ambient air monitoring network. The network went offline prior to Hurricane Maria's landfall. There is no update or information on the status or damages. EQB will staff an assessment team once their employees are available.
- PR may request air monitoring advice for planned debris burning of construction and vegetative debris.

## USVI Air Monitoring Activities

- Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency (VITEMA) had requested EPA air monitoring in public schools in St. Croix. This request is now being handled by the local government.

## PR Debris Recovery

- EPA is coordinating with the USACE in support of EPA's hazardous materials removal operations Mission Assignment (MA). USACE is evaluating several locations for debris collection staging areas. EPA plans to co-locate hazardous material staging areas at all identified staging locations. Until USACE's areas are identified, EPA is coordinating with EQB to establish a temporary hazardous materials staging area.
- USACE and contractors are requesting a waiver from EQB to use thermal reduction system (box burners) to be discussed at later meetings.



- Municipalities report a large amount of clandestine dumps in their communities. They are concerned with public health and environmental impacts. These dumps continue to be reported on October 10<sup>th</sup>.
- A barge with all the necessary equipment to support the debris MAs has been secured, and is scheduled to leave Pennsauken NJ on October 12<sup>th</sup>, with an ETA of October 18<sup>th</sup>. EPA's contractor is currently on PR to provide logistical support, and is procuring additional materials and equipment in support of EPA's debris MAs. A staging area at the US Army Garrison - Ft. Buchanan, in Guaynabo, has been secured for the staging of equipment to support EPA's debris MAs. This location will only be used to stage equipment and will not be a hazardous materials staging area.

### **USVI Debris Recovery**

- EPA continues to attend Debris Management Task Force meetings with FEMA, USACE and VIWMA regarding debris management and certain burn operations. USACE had requested EPA assistance with air monitoring during the USACE's air curtain burning of vegetative debris activities. The Task Force was informed by the Territory that burning of debris is no longer a viable option on any of the USVI. Prior to this decision, burn activities were anticipated to begin in late October.
- VIWMA has requested EPA assistance with the handling and transportation and disposal of household hazardous waste and the handling and/or preparation of electronics-waste and white goods for disposal. FEMA has forwarded the requested MA changes to include: electronics waste, medical waste, and preparing white goods for disposal.
- A collection area has been identified on St. Croix adjacent to the Limetree Facility. EPA will conduct air monitoring at the collection area. EPA will begin supporting and conducting these activities as soon as personnel and equipment are available on island.

### **Orphan Container and Pollution Response**

- As of October 10<sup>th</sup>, four hazard evaluations are open on USVI with none closed. No hazard evaluations have yet occurred on PR.
- No orphan containers are yet reported for USVI or PR.

### **Region 4 Significant Activities**

*Due to the new reporting schedule, this section will not be updated again until October 13<sup>th</sup>.*

### **Drinking Water / Wastewater (DW/WW) Assessments in FL**

- As of October 3<sup>rd</sup>, the USACE and the Region 4 Water Protection Division completed their ESF-3 water infrastructure assessment mission, with a total of 2,227 drinking water and wastewater facility assessments conducted. Field and remote assessment activities have been completed, and EPA has completed all ESF-3 assignments. Pending any changes in water sector activities, the REOC has suspended ESF-3 reporting in situation reports.

### **Debris Recovery in FL**

- Three Landfill Technical Specialists (LST) from the Resource Conservation and Recovery Division are deployed in the Keys.
- The FDEP Marathon Branch staff and the LST developed a plan to monitor the DDMSs and drafted a DDMS field checklist. As of October 9<sup>th</sup>, they have assessed 44 DDMSs in the Keys. Common deficiencies noted during the DDMS site visits include missing site access controls and absence of personnel acting as spotters.
- The DDMS established at the CEMEX building materials facility in Tavernier has been declared an imminent health hazard by the Florida Department of Health due to the waste pile's proximity to several residences. FDEP asked Monroe County to move the debris pile away from the residences and transport the material to an approved solid waste disposal facility. As reported October 9<sup>th</sup>, FDEP has requested that the LST participate in a meeting with the site operator of the DDMS at the CEMEX facility in Tavernier.
- At the request of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC), EPA prepared vessel recovery and staging areas. EPA prepared the Marathon City Marina for vessel extraction operations and provided site security (guard

and fencing). Subcontracted divers arrived on October 7<sup>th</sup>, and conducted a preliminary survey of equipment and vessels.

## Orphan Container and Pollution Response in FL

- As of October 9<sup>th</sup>, the EPA Container Recovery Group has recovered 227 items, including drums, oil containers, and propane tanks. These items are temporarily stored at the Florida Keys Marathon International Airport container staging area.
- EPA personnel integrated into Unified Command and continue land-based assessments in the inland zone of Monroe County. Areas assessed included Marathon, Islamorada, Boca Chica, and Pine Keys, and the Naval Air Station Key West.

EPA Container Assessment Targets (Identified to Date—Florida Keys)			
USCG Sector	Targets Identified/Assessed	Targets Completed*	Targets Remaining
Key West	160	90	70
*Removed or determined no further action necessary			

## EPA Headquarters Significant Activities

The HQ EOC is activated to Level 1 in support of EPA Region 2 and Region 4 responses to Maria and Irma. The HQ EOC is coordinating on several levels with EPA R2, EPA R4, and other Federal agencies. The HQ EOC deployed personnel to the FEMA NRCC's ESF-10 desk. EPA Senior Management on the Policy Coordination Committee (PCC) developed and issued senior management objectives that form the basis of field strategy and tactics in response to Maria and Irma.

Personnel	AO	OAR	OARM	OCFO	OCSP	OECA	OEI	OGC	OLEM	MORD	OW	PIO	ATSDR	Totals
Employees	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	8	0	1	1	0	16
Contractors	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Total	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	1	9	0	1	1	0	17

## Other EPA Activities

### OECA Civil/CID

- R2 expects to receive *force majeure* claims from a number of PR government entities and utilities, and the Municipality of San Juan and Municipality of Arecibo for obligations under existing Clean Water Act consent decrees with EPA, as well as one from the PREPA for compliance with a 1999 Clean Air Act consent decree. EPA evaluates those claims as soon as they are received and takes appropriate action.
- Accumulation of Hazardous Waste On-site Waiver
  - On September 29<sup>th</sup>, R2 granted a 30-day extension of the 90-day limit on the accumulation of hazardous waste on-site to Johnson & Johnson and Lilly del Caribe Inc. in PR. The two companies are large quantity generators and have informed EPA that because of impacts from the hurricanes, it is currently not possible to make hazardous waste shipments out of PR. It is possible that similar requests will be received from other companies.
- No Action Assurances (NAA)
  - On October 2<sup>nd</sup>, EPA issued a No Action Assurance to Merck, Sharp & Dohme Corp. for the use of four emergency generators located at its Las Piedras, PR facility.

- On September 27<sup>th</sup> Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance (OECA) issued an amended NAA concerning the importation, sale, donation or distribution of mobile power generators in PR to increase the number of generators available for use during the recovery from the devastation of Hurricane Maria.
- On September 27<sup>th</sup> OECA issued an NAA concerning the importation, sale, donation or distribution of mobile power generators in the USVI.
- Orders
  - On September 26<sup>th</sup>, EPA waived diesel fuel requirements to minimize and prevent disruptions in the supply of diesel fuel for mobile non-road generators and pumps used for emergency purposes in PR effective immediately through October 15th.
  - On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, R2 issued an emergency order to FEMA and DOD to provide drinking water treatment services on the USVI. The Order terminates on October 8<sup>th</sup>. There are no plans for renewal.
  - OECA and the State of Florida determined that the final pending request for a fuel waiver extension for Reformulated Gasoline was not necessary because adequate supply is available. Pending any further fuel waiver requests, the REOC will suspend fuel waiver reporting in future situation reports.

## Communications

- R2, R4, and HQ activities related to Irma and Maria response efforts are available at: <http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-irma> and [www.epa.gov/hurricane-maria](http://www.epa.gov/hurricane-maria), respectively.
- The Region 2 Public Affairs Director, PIO and Assistant PIOs continue to coordinate with CDC on messaging, particularly the messages on dangers of contaminated flood waters. Region 2 is coordinating closely internally with headquarters on messaging for the use of water purification tablets.
- Region 2 has three Community Involvement Coordinators (CICs) assisting the assessment teams in PR as of October 3<sup>rd</sup>. R2 is expecting up to eight additional bi-lingual CICs—11 total—to be called up for deployment to PR. One CIC is deploying to the USVI on October 8<sup>th</sup> for a two-week deployment. To guide EPA's outreach efforts in PR and the USVI, the Assistant PIO for Community Relations has formed a team to develop a Hurricane Maria Community Outreach Plan.
- Office of Public Affairs continues to issue daily Hurricane Maria news releases. In the October 9<sup>th</sup> release, the use of the NaDCC tablets was identified. The Hurricane Maria news releases are translated to Spanish, posted online, and distributed widely by the PIO.

## Congressional Inquiries

- US House of Representatives Speaker Paul Ryan is planning a visit to PR for October 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Senior Leadership from EPA Regions 2, 4 and 6 have been requested to appear at a briefing for members and staff of the House Energy & Commerce Committee on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. The purpose is “to articulate an assessment of the damage to air (RMP and NAAQS), drinking water, soil (including RCRA and CERCLA issues), progress made to remedy that damage, a plan to respond to such remaining damage, and any challenges to remediation.” State officials from Texas and Florida have been invited (but there is no indication that PR or USVI officials have been invited).
- Staff from Congressman Brian Mast contacted EPA HQ to inquire whether EPA field personnel could meet with the Congressman to discuss Irma related water quality issues. HQ forwarded the request to the Regional Administrator's office. Originally scheduled for September 27<sup>th</sup>, this meeting is being rescheduled.
- As reported by R2's October 1<sup>st</sup> Management Report, EPA responded to a request that FEMA received from a Vermont Congressman for information on the safety and distribution of water from 4 cisterns on Vieques. EPA provided guidance from Centers for Disease Control and EPA on cistern disinfection and making drinking water safe following natural disaster.